

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 341

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Jacob Harrison Crawford of Fayette County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Jacob Harrison Crawford; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crawford was an exemplary citizen and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, the son of the late William C. and Kathleen Gaither Crawford, Jacob Crawford graduated from Fayette County High School in 1942 and received his degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crawford valorously served his nation as a member of the United States Navy during World War II; and

WHEREAS, in 1955, Jacob Crawford married Anne Burnett, who passed away in 2004, and was later married to Elizabeth Lynn, who survives; and

WHEREAS, a multi-talented person with many interests, Mr. Crawford was an engineer, automobile dealer, airplane pilot, inventor, and accomplished musician; and

WHEREAS, as an engineer for the Ford Motor Company, Jacob Crawford lived in Dearborn, Michigan, and in Memphis, Tennessee, before returning to his beloved Fayette County in 1959, when he purchased the Ford Motor dealership in Somerville, which he operated until his retirement; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crawford was an active and devout member of the Williston United Methodist Church throughout his life and served as church organist for many years; and

WHEREAS, a talented musician, Mr. Crawford played numerous instruments, and he joined with a group of friends who made weekly visits to Jackson to play stringed instruments

together; moreover, he also hosted the annual Plectoral Music Society gathering at the Crawford family farm for a number of years; and

WHEREAS, Jacob Crawford enjoyed animals and was known for his compassion and benevolence to those who experienced difficult times; and

WHEREAS, Jacob Crawford enjoyed flying his airplane and had an airport at his home in Williston; the family residence, known as Crawford Place, was often a part of the Fayette County Tour of Homes and other local fund raising events; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family and, in addition to his wife, the former Elizabeth Lynn, Mr. Crawford is survived by his step-sons, Robert "Bob" Lynn and his wife, Brenda, Mike Lynn and his wife, Joann, and Tommy Lynn and his wife, Bonnie; and

WHEREAS, Jacob Crawford is further survived by his sister, Estelle Mattox; his sister-in-law, Ruby C. Crawford; twelve step-grandchildren; eight step-great-grandchildren, and a number of nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crawford will be deeply missed by all who were fortunate to know him; and

WHEREAS, Jacob Crawford leaves behind a legacy of integrity and commitment in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors, and it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Jacob Harrison Crawford, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Mr. Crawford.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.